

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/553,240
Amendment filed July 15, 2009
Reply to OA dated January 28, 2009

REMARKS:

By the present amendment, an apparent typographical error has been corrected in the subject specification in regard to the reference to "Carey-Lee" at page 11 that should read "Carey-Lea." The paragraph bridging pages 10 and 11 of the subject specification contained two instances of incorrect spelling of "Carey-Lea" process, however, only one of them was corrected by the Amendments to Specification submitted in the Amendment of June 29, 2009. Entry of these amendments is respectfully requested.

By the present amendment, claim 9 in its amended form has been presented again in order to correct a typographical error contained in the Amendment of June 29, 2009. Specifically, line 2 of the seventh paragraph of claim 9 contained units "mS/cm" which should read " μ S/cm." Claim 9 as presented herein corrects this error. Entry of these amendments is respectfully requested.

Furthermore, the two instances of units "mS/cm" on page 18 of the Remarks submitted with Amendment filed on June 29, 2009, should also read " μ S/cm" (see attached copy of page 18 with corrections).

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In the event that this paper is not timely filed, the applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosure: Copy of page 18 with corrections

(3) Consequently, an important object of the present invention is to provide a fine silver particle colloidal dispersion in which the fine silver particles in the colloidal dispersion are set to be in a higher concentration than that in the coating liquid for forming a transparent conductive layer and which does not contain any "polymeric dispersing agent" that would put obstacles to heat treatment at a low temperature.

In order to achieve the above object, the process for producing a fine silver particle colloidal dispersion of a water-organic solvent system according to the presently claimed invention is comprised of: a reaction step of forming an agglomerate of fine silver particles; a filtration step of obtaining a cake of the agglomerate of fine silver particles; a dispersion step of obtaining a first fine silver particle colloidal dispersion of a water system; a concentration and washing step of obtaining a second fine silver particle colloidal dispersion of a water system; and a dilution and viscosity modifying step of adding an organic solvent; wherein the fine silver particle colloidal dispersion after having been wash-treated is controlled to have an electric conductivity of 200 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ or less at the solvent part exclusive of the fine silver particles from the second fine silver particle colloidal dispersion of a water system, and the organic solvent to be used in the dilution and viscosity modifying step comprises dimethyl sulfoxide.

That is, when the washing treatment is performed until the second fine silver particle colloidal dispersion of a water system has an electric conductivity of 200 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ or less at the